



## 2005-2006 School Exclusion List

### Official List of Conditions Requiring Exclusion from School with Guidance Section

Statutory authority: SC Code Sections 20-7-2980, 44-1-110, 44-1-140 and 44-29-10

SC Regulation #61-20 requires that SC DHEC publish each year an Official School and Childcare Exclusion List of Contagious and Communicable Diseases (hereinafter referred to as the Childcare Exclusion List or the School Exclusion List.) It further requires that students should be excluded from school attendance if they have one or more of the conditions in the lists. Schools should maintain a record of students known to have been excluded under this regulation.

**Parent Notification.** The school should give to all parents/guardians the list of conditions that require exclusion from school attendance, and inform them that they must notify the school within 24 hours after their student has developed a known or suspected communicable disease. Students may return to the school as soon as their symptoms are resolved, unless stated otherwise in the exclusion list or by their health care provider.

**Reporting by Schools.** Per SC Statute 44-29-10, "any person or entity that maintains a database containing health care data must report [to SC DHEC] all cases of persons who harbor any illness or health condition that may be caused by ... epidemic or pandemic disease, or novel and highly fatal infectious agents and might pose a substantial risk of a significant number of human fatalities or incidents of permanent or long-term disability." These conditions, indicated on the SC 2006 List of Reportable Conditions as Immediately or Urgently Reportable, must be reported to the local health department. Schools' reporting of Routinely Reportable conditions greatly facilitates local and state disease control efforts. Schools should consult with SC DHEC regarding outbreaks or clusters of symptoms related to communicable diseases.

### The 2005-2006 School Exclusion List is effective July 1, 2005.

#### Guidance for Implementing the 2005-2006 School Exclusion List

- **Use in Schools.** The School Exclusion List applies to students in grades 1-12 who are not medically fragile.<sup>1</sup> The separate **Childcare Exclusion List** should be used for students in grades K-3, K-4, and K-5, as well as students designated as being medically fragile.<sup>1</sup>
- **Mixed age groupings.** When students are taught or routinely spend time in mixed age groups, the standards for the youngest children in the group apply.
- **Notes / Documentation for Return.** The type of note needed for a student to return to school is indicated in the tables that follow. Physicians, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants or SC DHEC licensed health care professional staff may write medical notes for return to school following an excludable condition. These notes should be kept on file at the school for at least one calendar year.
- **Period of Exclusion.** If a student does not respond to treatment for an excludable condition, the health care provider or health department may suggest longer periods of exclusion.
- **Other Diseases.** These lists address common exposures to communicable disease. SC DHEC staff are available for consultation on specific exposure risks such as close contact sports, water sports, immunocompromised status, etc.
- **Food-handling.** SC DHEC staff are available for consultation on excluding employees with symptoms or diagnoses of conditions that could be spread through feeding or other food-handling tasks.
- **Outbreaks.** During disease outbreaks or special circumstances, SC DHEC may change the recommendations in the Childcare Exclusion List and/or the School Exclusion List.

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of school exclusion, the term "medically fragile" refers to those students with special healthcare needs or developmental delays who require close assistance with feeding or other personal hygiene activities by which communicable illnesses may be easily spread.

**Students with the following conditions must be excluded from school attendance:**

Exclusion Criteria	Documentation for Return	Reportable to Health Department? <sup>2</sup>
1. The student with symptoms or other manifestations of possible severe illness which may include (but are not limited to): a. Fever (see #2 below) b. Difficulty breathing c. Unusual lethargy (an unusual tiredness or lack of energy) d. Unusually severe Irritability	School to specify based on situation.	Report Outbreaks only <sup>3</sup>
2. Fever, accompanied by behavior changes or other signs and symptoms of illness (such as sore throat, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, earache, irritability, or confusion) until medical evaluation indicates inclusion is acceptable. Fever is defined in school children as: • Oral temperature: 101.0° F or greater • Axillary (under the arm) temperature: 100.0° F or greater	School to specify based on situation.	Report Outbreaks only <sup>3</sup>
3. Streptococcal pharyngitis (strep throat), until afebrile and at least 24 hours after treatment has been initiated.	Medical Note	Report Outbreaks only <sup>3</sup>
4. Uncontrolled diarrhea (3 or more loose stools in a 24 hour period) or stools that contain blood or mucus, until symptoms are resolved or medical evaluation indicates that inclusion is acceptable. Exclusion is not required if student is known to have these symptoms for a non-infectious condition (e.g., IBS or Crohn's Disease.)	School to specify based on situation.	Report Outbreaks only <sup>3</sup>
5. Infection with <i>Escherichia coli</i> O157:H7, or other <i>shiga</i> -toxin producing <i>E. coli</i> , until diarrhea resolves and 2 stool cultures are negative.	Medical Note	Report within 24 hours by phone.
6. <i>Salmonella typhi</i> (typhoid fever) infection: Exclude until 24 hours without a diarrheal stool.  Nontyphoidal <i>Salmonella</i> infections do not require exclusion from school unless individuals are symptomatic.	Medical Note for Typhoid  Parent Note for Non-typhoidal	Report within 7 days  Report within 7 days
7. <i>Shigella</i> infection, until asymptomatic.	Medical Note	Report within 7 days

<sup>2</sup> The requirement to report indicated Immediately Reportable or Urgently Reportable (within 24 hours) conditions applies to physicians, laboratories, health facilities, and "any person or entity that maintains a database containing health care data." Schools' reporting of Routinely Reportable conditions greatly facilitates local and state disease control efforts. Disease reporting requirements are found in the SC DHEC Bureau of Disease Control's "SC 2006 List of Reportable Conditions," ([www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/docs/reportable\\_conditions.pdf](http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/docs/reportable_conditions.pdf)).

<sup>3</sup> Report outbreaks and clusters of diseases or symptoms that would not be reportable as single cases. An "Outbreak" in a school is defined as an excess number of cases or symptoms over the expected occurrence of disease within a school or classroom or group.

**Students with the following conditions must be excluded from school attendance:**

<b>Exclusion Criteria</b>	<b>Documentation for Return</b>	<b>Reportable to Health Department? <sup>2</sup></b>
8. Impetigo, with lesions that cannot be covered, if part of a cluster of cases within a school or if there are drooling or hygienic concerns, until 24 hours after treatment has been initiated.	School to specify based on situation.	Report Outbreaks only <sup>3</sup>
9. Scabies, until after appropriate scabicial treatment has been applied.	Medical Note	Not reportable
10. Head lice (pediculosis), <u>from the end of the school day</u> until after the first treatment with an appropriate pediculicide. <sup>4</sup>	Parent Note	Not reportable
11. Ringworm ( <i>Tinea capitis</i> ) Exclude students with <i>Tinea capitis</i> (ringworm of the scalp) until oral antifungal treatment is initiated. Topical treatments such as selenium sulfide shampoo (1% or 2.5%) decrease fungal shedding and may be recommended to help curb the spread of infection.	Medical Note for scalp ringworm	Not reportable
12. Ringworm ( <i>Tinea corporis</i> ) Exclude students with <i>Tinea corporis</i> (ringworm of the body) until oral or topical antifungal treatment is initiated, unless affected area can be adequately covered. Additional restrictions may be recommended for PE & sports activities.	Parent Note for body ringworm	Not reportable
13. Impetigo, with lesions that cannot be covered, if part of a cluster of cases within a school or if there are drooling or hygienic concerns, until 24 hours after treatment has been initiated.	School to specify based on situation.	Report Outbreaks only <sup>3</sup>
14. Purulent conjunctivitis (defined as pink or red conjunctivae with white or yellow eye discharge, often with matted eyelids after sleep and eye pain or redness of the eyelids or skin surrounding the eye), until evaluated and treated. <u>Non-purulent conjunctivitis</u> (defined as pink conjunctivae with a clear, water eye discharge without fever, eye pain or eyelid redness) <u>does not require exclusion from school.</u>	Medical Note	Report Outbreaks only <sup>3</sup>
15. Rash with fever or behavioral change, until a physician has determined that the illness is not a communicable disease.	Medical Note	Report Outbreaks only <sup>3</sup>
16. Measles, until 4 days after onset of rash.	Medical Note	<b>REPORT IMMEDIATELY by phone</b>
17. Mumps, until 9 days after onset of parotid gland swelling.	Medical Note	Report within 7 days

<sup>4</sup> Local Education Agencies opting for more stringent "No Nit" Policies should clearly explain these policies to families when distributing materials on School Exclusion.

**Students with the following conditions must be excluded from school attendance:**

<b>Exclusion Criteria</b>	<b>Documentation for Return</b>	<b>Reportable to Health Department? <sup>2</sup></b>
18. Rubella, until 7 days after onset of rash.	Medical Note	Report within 24 hours by phone
19. Varicella (chickenpox), until all lesions have dried and crusted (usually 6 days after the onset of rash).	Parent Note	Report within 7 days
20. Varicella-Herpes Zoster (shingles) with lesions that cannot be covered, until lesions are crusted.	Parent Note	Report Outbreaks only <sup>3</sup>
21. Pertussis (whooping cough), until completion of 5 days of appropriate antibiotic therapy.	Medical Note	Report within 24 hours by phone
22. Hepatitis A virus (HAV) infection, until 1 week after onset of illness or jaundice (if symptoms are mild).	Medical Note	Report within 24 hours by phone
23. Tuberculosis, until the local health department authority or <u>treating</u> physician states that the student is noninfectious.	Medical Note	Report within 7 days
24. Conditions or illnesses that DHEC or a health care provider indicates warrant exclusion. This includes students determined to be contributing to the transmission of illness in the school.	Medical note	DHEC staff are available for consultation on this exclusion.

**Exclusion Criteria for Students who are contacts (exposed) to individuals with excludable conditions:**

Exclusion Criteria for Exposure	Documentation for Return
1. <b><u>When recommended by the health department</u></b> , contacts to <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib), <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> (meningococcal disease), or Pertussis should be excluded until antibiotic treatment has been initiated.	Medical Note
2. Other conditions when recommended by DHEC or the private physician.	SC DHEC will specify based upon situation.
3. <b>Non-immunized school children</b> must be excluded if exposed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measles</li> <li>• Mumps</li> <li>• Rubella</li> <li>• Pertussis (whooping cough), for children under 7 years of age</li> <li>• Other conditions when recommended by DHEC</li> </ul>	SC DHEC will provide guidance on an individual basis regarding when a student who is immunocompromised or not sufficiently immunized may return to the school setting following an exposure to one of these conditions.

**Children with the following conditions do not need to be excluded from school:**

- Mild upper respiratory tract infection, even if it is associated with green or yellow nasal discharge, as long as the student does not have a fever or any of the other excludable symptoms described above
- Fifth Disease (Parvovirus B19 infection). Individuals are no longer contagious once the rash appears, and they cannot be diagnosed with Fifth Disease before the rash appears
- Red eyes without yellow or green discharge, fever, eye pain or matting
- Cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection
- Warts
- Croup
- Bronchitis
- Pinworms
- Pneumonia
- Ear infection
- Rash without fever

**References:**

American Public Health Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, Caring For Our Children, National Health and Safety Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Childcare Programs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Chapter 3, HP 68, 2002, US Department of Health and Human Services. <http://nrc.uchsc.edu/>

American Academy of Pediatrics, Red Book 2003, Elk Grove Village, IL

American Academy of Pediatrics, Pennsylvania Chapter, Model Childcare Health Policies, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 1997, Healthy Childcare Pennsylvania, Rosemont, PA

American Academy of Pediatrics, Barton Schmitt, MD, Pediatric Telephone Protocols, Office Version, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The ABCs of Safe and Health Childcare, [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/abc/abc.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/hip/abc/abc.htm). (The ABC's were posted in 1997, and then removed from CDC website in 2003. This site's content was used to develop these exclusion lists.)

SC Department of Social Services, Division of Child Day Care Licensing and Regulatory Services. 2004 Revisions to Regulations 114-500 through 114-509.